

MEMBERSHIP: WHERE DO I FIT IN?

FBC Rangely, Colorado

WHY CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?

Since you are reading this booklet, perhaps you are already committed to the idea of being a member of FBC Rangely. Still, it is helpful to explain the purpose of membership so that we all understand the same thing.

“Church membership is a declaration of citizenship in Christ’s kingdom. It’s a passport...It’s the declaration that you are an official, licensed, card-carrying bona fide Jesus representative.” (Church Membership, Jonathan Leeman, p. 64)

Church membership then is the backing of the congregation that agrees with your declaration. If you become a member of FBC Rangely, we are saying that indeed you do fairly represent Jesus to this lost and broken world.

WHAT’S THE CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP?

At FBC Rangely we need to be able to affirm three things:

1. That your profession of faith in Christ is credible
2. That you have been baptized upon that profession of faith
3. That you agree with our Church Covenant and Statement of Faith

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF MEMBERSHIP?

First, we as a congregation promise to help you grow as a disciple of Christ. Second, you promise to submit yourself to the service and authority of the body of FBC Rangely. We are a family and want to support and encourage each other toward Christlikeness.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

If you are interested in becoming a member, please fill out this form and return it to the pastor or any of the leaders of the church. We will then set up a time to meet with you.

Date _____

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Marital Status Married Single Divorced

If married, spouse's name _____

Spouse DOB _____ Anniversary _____

If applicable, where were you previously a church member?

How were you introduced to FBC Rangely?

I am coming today to (circle and fill in the appropriate blanks):

1. Profess that I have repented of my sins, received Jesus as my Savior, accepted Him as the Lord of my life, and wish to make a public witness through believer's baptism.

2. Join this church by transfer of letter from another like-minded church.

I am currently a member in good standing at

Name of church _____

Address of church _____

3. Join this church body by confession that I have repented of my sins, received Jesus as my Savior, accepted Him as the Lord of my life, and have been previously baptized as a believer at another church.

CHURCH COVENANT FOR FBC RANGELY

Having, as we trust, been brought by Divine Grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and to give up ourselves to Him, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with each other.

(Ephesians 2; Mark 1; Romans 6; Philippians 2)

We will work and pray for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

(Ephesians 4)

We will walk together in brotherly love, as becomes the members of a Christian Church, by exercising an affectionate care and watchfulness over each other, and by faithfully admonishing and entreating one another as occasion may require (Hebrews 10; Philippians 3;

Colossians 2)

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor neglect to pray for ourselves and others. (Hebrews 10)

We will endeavor to bring up such as may at any time be under our care, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and by a pure and loving example to seek the salvation of our family and friends. (1

Thessalonians 5)

We will rejoice at each other's happiness, and endeavor with tenderness and sympathy to bear each other's burdens and sorrows.

(Galatians 6)

We will seek, by Divine aid, to live carefully in the world, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, and remembering that, as we have been voluntarily buried by baptism and raised again from the symbolic grave, so there is on us a special obligation now to lead a new and holy life.

(Romans 6; 1 Peter 2)

We will work together for the continuance of a faithful evangelical ministry in this church, as we sustain its worship, ordinances (baptism and communion), discipline, and doctrines. We will contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations. (1 Corinthians 9)

We will, when moving individually from this place, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word. (Hebrews 10)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

There is **only one God** and He is perfect, changeless, righteous, and loving.

God is three persons, equal in essence, power, and eternity. The three persons are called God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These make up the one triune God.

Jesus Christ, God the Son, came to earth as the one and only God/Man. He came to reveal and glorify the Father and die for the sins of humankind. His death was substitutionary and his atonement for the sins of humankind was complete.

The Bible is the very word of God and is inerrant and authoritative.

Salvation for all humankind is by personal repentance and faith in the atoning work of Jesus Christ. **Salvation is by God's grace alone.**

The gospel is the good news of God to all the world inviting all to peace with God. The good news is that Jesus Christ died for the sins of the

world and the death penalty for sin is paid for those who trust Jesus Christ as Savior.

Heaven and hell are real. Heaven is the destination after this life for those who trust Jesus Christ as their Savior. Hell is the destination for those who do not trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The church covenant gives you some expectations for your commitment to the body of believers in this congregation. Below are some specific ways you might consider getting involved with your church family.

- Attend worship gatherings as often as you are able. Something is wrong if you aren't around.
- Financially support the mission of the church. Tithing is not required. But being a percentage giver is normal. Giving 10% or more is common in our congregation.
- Attend Sunday School.
- Join a small group study meeting in people's homes.
- Volunteer to use your God-given talents to encourage and build up your church family (teaching Sunday School, helping lead worship, mowing the lawn, repairing and maintaining the church building, etc).
- Invite friends and family to come to worship.
- Look for opportunities to share your faith every day.

The bottom line is simple, don't just be a spectator. Get involved and work for the glory of the Lord with your brothers and sisters in Christ here at First Baptist Church, Rangely, Colorado.